

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE
UNITED STATES RECEIVING OFFICE

Date	June 23, 2004
International Application No.	US 60/480,880
Attorney Docket No.	P03027WO2A

I. Certification under 37 CFR 1.10 (if applicable)

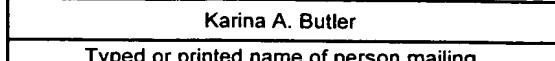
EL961494627US
Express Mail mailing number

June 23, 2004
Date of Deposit

I hereby certify that the application/correspondence attached hereto is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



Signature of person mailing correspondence



Typed or printed name of person mailing correspondence

II. New International Application

TITLE	METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MARKING TIRES
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Earliest priority date (Day/Month/Year)
23/06/2003

SCREENING DISCLOSURE INFORMATION: In order to assist in screening the accompanying international application for purposes of determining whether a license for foreign transmittal should and could be granted and for other purposes, the following information is supplied: (Note: check as many boxes as apply):

- A. The invention disclosed was not made in the United States.
- B. There is no prior U.S. application relating to this invention.
- C. The following prior U.S. application(s) contain subject matter which is related to the invention disclosed in the attached international application. (NOTE: priority to these applications may or may not be claimed on form PCT/RO/101 (Request) and this listing does not constitute a claim for priority.)

application no.	60/480,880	filed on	23/06/2003
application no.		filed on	

- D. The present international application contains additional subject matter not found in the prior U.S. application(s) identified in paragraph C. above. The additional subject matter is found on pages throughout application and DOES NOT ALTER MIGHT BE CONSIDERED TO ALTER the general nature of the invention in a manner which would require the U.S. application to have been made available for inspection by the appropriate defense agencies under 35 U.S.C. 181 and 37 CFR 5.1. See 37 CFR 5.15.

III. A Response to an Invitation from the RO/US. The following document(s) is(are) enclosed:

- A. A Request for An Extension of Time to File a Response
- B. A Power of Attorney (General or Regular)
- C. Replacement pages:

pages	of the request (PCT/RO/101)	pages	of the figures
pages	of the description	pages	of the
pages	of the claims		

- D. Submission of Priority Documents

Priority document	Priority document
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- E. Fees as specified on attached Fee Calculation sheet form PCT/RO/101 annex

IV. A Request for Rectification under PCT Rule 91 A petition A Sequence Listing Diskette

V. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (please specify): Return Receipt Postcard, Disk
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The person signing this form is the:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Applicant	Michael Sand
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Attorney/Agent (Reg. No.) 26,503	Typed name of signer
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Common Representative	 Signature

PCT REQUEST

Original (for SUBMISSION)

0	For receiving Office use only	
0-1	International Application No.	
0-2	International Filing Date	
0-3	Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"	
0-4	Form PCT/RO/101 PCT Request	
0-4-1	Prepared Using PCT-SAFE [EASY mode] Version 3.50 (Build 0002.162)	
0-5	Petition The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty	
0-6	Receiving Office (specified by the applicant) United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) (RO/US)	
0-7	Applicant's or agent's file reference P03027WO2A	
I	Title of Invention METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR MARKING TIRES	
II	Applicant	
II-1	This person is applicant only	
II-2	Applicant for all designated States except US	
II-4	Name BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE NORTH AMERICAN TIRE, LLC	
II-5	Address 535 Marriott Drive Nashville, TN 37214 United States of America	
II-6	State of nationality US	
II-7	State of residence US	
II-8	Telephone No. 330-379-6851	
II-9	Facsimile No. 330-379-4064	
III-1	Applicant and/or inventor	
III-1-1	This person is applicant and inventor	
III-1-2	Applicant for US only	
III-1-4	Name (LAST, First) SMITH, JR., Donald L.	
III-1-5	Address 807 Vivian's Way Brentwood, TN 37027 United States of America	
III-1-6	State of nationality US	
III-1-7	State of residence US	

PCT REQUEST

Original (for SUBMISSION)

III-2	Applicant and/or Inventor	
III-2-1	This person is	applicant and inventor
III-2-2	Applicant for	US only
III-2-4	Name (LAST, First)	ORENDORF, Daniel C.
III-2-5	Address	433 Ridgestone Dr. Franklin, TN 37064
III-2-6	State of nationality	United States of America
III-2-7	State of residence	US
III-3	Applicant and/or Inventor	
III-3-1	This person is	applicant and inventor
III-3-2	Applicant for	US only
III-3-4	Name (LAST, First)	PARKS, Stefan A.
III-3-5	Address	610 Lake Farm Rd. Smyrna, TN 37167
III-3-6	State of nationality	United States of America
III-3-7	State of residence	US
III-4	Applicant and/or Inventor	
III-4-1	This person is	applicant and inventor
III-4-2	Applicant for	US only
III-4-4	Name (LAST, First)	BELL, Thomas W.
III-4-5	Address	365A Village Pointe Dr. Akron, OH 44313
III-4-6	State of nationality	United States of America
III-4-7	State of residence	US
III-5	Applicant and/or Inventor	
III-5-1	This person is	applicant and inventor
III-5-2	Applicant for	US only
III-5-4	Name (LAST, First)	PETERS, Joseph J.
III-5-5	Address	425 Waterton Court Brentwood, TN 37027
III-5-6	State of nationality	United States of America
III-5-7	State of residence	US

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Original (for SUBMISSION)

III-6	Applicant and/or Inventor	
III-6-1	This person is	applicant and inventor
III-6-2	Applicant for	US only
III-6-4	Name (LAST, First)	WOOD, Ira L.
III-6-5	Address	1701 Witt Way Drive Spring Hill, TN 37174
III-6-6	State of nationality	United States of America
III-6-7	State of residence	US
IV-1	Agent or common representative; or address for correspondence	
	The person identified below is hereby/ has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as:	agent
IV-1-1	Name (LAST, First)	HUBER, Michael
IV-1-2	Address	BRIDGESTONE AMERICAS HOLDING, INC. 1200 Firestone Parkway Akron, OH 44317
IV-1-3	Telephone No.	United States of America 330-379-6851
IV-1-4	Facsimile No.	330-379-4064
IV-1-6	Agent's registration No.	44,783
IV-2	Additional agent(s)	additional agent(s) with same address as first named agent
IV-2-1	Name(s)	VASUTA, John(35,353); PALMER, Meredith(47,839)
IV-3	Additional agent(s)	agent
IV-3-1	Name (LAST, First)	SAND, Michael
IV-3-2	Address	SAND & SEBOLT Aegis Tower, Suite 1100 4940 Munson St. NW Canton, OH 44718
IV-3-3	Telephone No.	United States of America 330-244-1174
IV-3-4	Facsimile No.	330-244-1173
IV-3-5	e-mail	
IV-3-6	Agent's registration No.	26,503

PCT REQUEST

Original (for SUBMISSION)

V	DESIGNATIONS		
V-1	The filing of this request constitutes under Rule 4.9(a), the designation of all Contracting States bound by the PCT on the International filing date, for the grant of every kind of protection available and, where applicable, for the grant of both regional and national patents.		
VI-1	Priority claim of earlier national application		
VI-1-1	Filing date	23 June 2003 (23.06.2003)	
VI-1-2	Number	60/480,880	
VI-1-3	Country	US	
VI-2	Priority document request The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s):	VI-1	
VII-1	International Searching Authority Chosen	United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) (ISA/US)	
VIII	Declarations	Number of declarations	
VIII-1	Declaration as to the identity of the inventor	-	
VIII-2	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to apply for and be granted a patent	-	
VIII-3	Declaration as to the applicant's entitlement, as at the international filing date, to claim the priority of the earlier application	-	
VIII-4	Declaration of inventorship (only for the purposes of the designation of the United States of America)	-	
VIII-5	Declaration as to non-prejudicial disclosures or exceptions to lack of novelty	-	
IX	Check list	number of sheets	electronic file(s) attached
IX-1	Request (including declaration sheets)	5	✓
IX-2	Description	13	-
IX-3	Claims	3	-
IX-4	Abstract	1	✓
IX-5	Drawings	5	-
IX-7	TOTAL	27	

PCT REQUESTOriginal (for **SUBMISSION**)

	Accompanying Items	paper document(s) attached	electronic file(s) attached
IX-8	Fee calculation sheet	✓	-
IX-17	PCT-SAFE physical media	-	✓
IX-18	other	Return Receipt Postcard	
IX-18	other	PCT Transmittal	
IX-19	Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract	7	
IX-20	Language of filing of the international application	English	
X-1	Signature of applicant, agent or common representative	<i>Michael Sand</i>	
X-1-1	Name (LAST, First)	SAND, Michael	
X-1-2	Name of signatory		
X-1-3	Capacity		

FOR RECEIVING OFFICE USE ONLY

10-1	Date of actual receipt of the purported international application	
10-2	Drawings:	
10-2-1	Received	
10-2-2	Not received	
10-3	Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application	
10-4	Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2)	
10-5	International Searching Authority	ISA/US
10-6	Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid	

FOR INTERNATIONAL BUREAU USE ONLY

11-1	Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau	
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PCT REQUEST (ANNEX - FEE CALCULATION SHEET)

Original (for SUBMISSION)

(This sheet is not part of and does not count as a sheet of the international application)

0	For receiving Office use only		
0-1	International Application No.		
0-2	Date stamp of the receiving Office		
0-4	Form PCT/RO/101 (Annex) PCT Fee Calculation Sheet Prepared Using		
0-4-1	PCT-SAFE [EASY mode] Version 3.50 (Build 0002.162)		
0-9	Applicant's or agent's file reference		
2	Applicant		
	BRIDGESTONE/FIRESTONE NORTH AMERICAN TIRE, LLC		
12	Calculation of prescribed fees	fee amount/multiplier	Total amounts (USD)
12-1	Transmittal fee	T	300
12-2-1	Search fee	S	1000
12-2-2	International search to be carried out by	US	
12-3	International filing fee (first 30 sheets)	I1	1134
12-4	Remaining sheets	0	
12-5	Additional amount (X)	0	
12-6	Total additional amount	I2	0
12-7	i1 + i2 =	I	1134
12-12	EASY Filing reduction	R	-81
12-13	Total International filing fee (i-R)	I	1053
12-14	Fee for priority document Number of priority documents requested	1	
12-15	Fee per document (X)	20	
12-16	Total priority document fee:	P	20
12-17	TOTAL FEES PAYABLE (T+S+I+P)		2373
12-19	Mode of payment	authorization to charge deposit account	
12-20	Deposit account instructions The receiving Office	United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) (RO/US)	
12-20-1	Authorization to charge the total fees indicated above	✓	
12-20-2	Authorization to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the total fees indicated above	✓	
12-20-3	Authorization to charge the fee for priority document	✓	
12-21	Deposit account No.	06-0925	
12-22	Date	23 June 2004 (23.06.2004)	
12-23	Name and signature	SAND, Michael <i>Michael Sand</i>	

A system and associated method of marking a molded vehicle tire with laser engraved information to provide both human visible and machine readable data concerning the tire. Information contained in a barcode on the tire is read at a first station and supplied to a control unit. The physical location of human visible information previously molded into the tire is read from the tire at a second station and supplied to the control unit which uses this information to position a laser located at a third station for engaging additional human visible information pertaining to the manufacture of the tire adjacent the existing visible information to satisfy the Department of Transportation (DOT) tire marking requirements. The additional information also can be laser engraved into the tire in a machine readable encoded format, such as 2D symbols, for subsequent control and verification throughout the life of the tire.